

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 04999 062220Z

ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PER-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 PM-04
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1244

INFO DOD WASHDC

JCS

DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MORG

SUBJECT: ASSIGNMENT OF DATT

1. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT DIA PLANS TO REPLACE
THE CURRENT DEFENSE ATTACHE, COL. COUGHLIN, WITH AN
AIR FORCE OFFICER, AND THE NEW ARMY ATTACHE WOULD
BE JUNIOR TO THE DATT.

2. FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THIS MISSION, IT IS VITAL
TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN THE CLOSEST COMMUNICATION WITH
ARGENTINA'S SENIOR SERVICE, THE ARMY. THOUGH THE
CURRENT GOVERNMENT IS HEADED BY A JUNTA MADE UP OF THE
HEADS OF ALL THREE SERVICES, THERE SHOULD BE NO
MISUNDERSTANDING THAT THE ARMY IS BY FAR THE PREEMINENT
SERVICE AND NO DECISIONS WILL BE TAKEN BY THE JUNTA
WHICH ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE ARMY. THE ARGENTINE
MILITARY, IN COMMON WITH THEIR LATIN AMERICAN
COUNTERPARTS, PLACE THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE ON
SENIORITY. THE WELL-KNOWN EXAMPLE IS THAT ALL OFFICERS
SENIOR TO A NEWLY-CHOSEN SERVICE CHIEF MUST BE
RETIRED.

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3. THE ARMED FORCES, MEANING THE ARMY ACCOMPANIED BY
THE OTHER TWO BRANCHES, CONTROL THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT
AND VIRTUALLY NO OBSERVERS EXPECT THAT THEY WILL
RELINQUISH THIS CONTROL WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS.
IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE ATTEMPT TO COMMUNICATE WITH
THE ARGENTINE ARMY UNDER THE BEST CONDITIONS POSSIBLE.

ONE OBVIOUS WAY TO ENHANCE THESE CONDITIONS IS TO
INSURE THAT THE SENIOR US SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
IN ARGENTINA IS AN ARMY OFFICER.

4. I RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT RAISE WITH DIA
THE DESIRABILITY OF ASSIGNING AN ARMY OFFICER AS
THE NEXT DATT. I WILL STRONGLY SO RECOMMEND TO THE
NEW AMBASSADOR.
CHAPLIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ASSIGNMENT OF DATT
TAGS: MORG, APER, AR, US
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